People employed in Aqua farms of Andhra Pradesh

1516. SHRI YERRA NARAYANASWAMY: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether MPEDA has done any census of the number of people employed in the aqua farms of Andhra Pradesh;

(b) if so, details of number of workers and farmers employed or involved in MPEDA approved aqua farms in Andhra Pradesh; and

(c) whether MPEDA has any plan to extend financial assistance to those facing closure of aqua farms in Andhra Pradesh?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (DR. BOLLA BULI RAMAIAH): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) MPEDA has not, for the present, envisaged any plan to extend financial assistance to those facing closure of aqua farms for any State including Andhra Pradesh.

Import of Fertilizers by MMTC

1517. SHRI YERRA NARAYANASWAMY: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether MMTC has been importing fertilizers over the past many years;

(b) the quantum and value of such fertilizers imported by MMTC over the last three years;

(c) whether MMTC has a dealer network in West Godavari and East Godavari districts in Andhra Pradesh;

(d) if so, the quantum of fertilizers allotted to West Godavari and East Godavari districts in Andhra Pradesh;

(e) whether there is a proposal to expand activities of MMTC in 1997-98 in this sector; and

(f) if so, the steps proposed in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (DR. BOLLA BULI RAMAIAH): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) A Statement is annexed. (See below).

(c) and (d) Yes, Sir. During the period April' 96—Feb., '97 MMTC has sold approximately 5300 MT of DAP in both these Districts of Andhra Pradesh.

(e) and (f) The existing levels of fertilizers business are proposed to be retained in 1997-98.

Statement

MMTC is importing urea over the past 20 years as a canalising agency on behalf of Deptt. of Fertilizers. MMTC is also importing fertilizers such as MOP, DAP, etc. for sale in domestic market since" 1994-95. The quantum and value of such fertilizers imported during the last 3 years are given below:

Canalised Urea

Year	Quantity (LMT)	Value (Rs. Crores)
1994-95	29.60	1546.89
1995-96	25.42	1893.22
1996-97 (Till 2M/97)	12.35	820.09

Domestic Fertilizers

(Qty. in LMT) (Value Rs. Crores)

	1994-95		1995-96		1996-97	
	Qty.	Value	Qty.	Value	Qty.	Value
DAP	20.80	12.95	222.30	193.96	—	—
MOP	157.44	53.16	145.34	57.94	15.00	5.99
UREA	—	—	388.97	94.92	278.00	69.09

Export incentive Schemes

1518. SHRI AKHILESH DAS: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the existing export incentive schemes;

(b) whether Government propose to review the incentive for exporters;

(c) if so, ihe reasons therefor;

(d) whether it is a fact that there has been misuse of the incentive schemes;

(e) if so, the details in this regard; and

(f) the measures Government propose to take to streamline the schemes for ensuring transparency and result orientation?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (DR. BOLLA BULI RAMAIAH): (a) to (c) The main Export Promotion Schemes in the Export and Import Policy, 1992—97, include Advance Licensing Scheme, Export Oriented Units/Export Processing Zones Scheme, Software Technology Parks, Electronic Hardware Technology Parks Scheme and Diamond, Gem & Jewellery Export Promotion Scheme which encourage export production by facilitating easy access to raw materials/components, capital goods required for production at competitive prices. Annual reviews of the Policy have been undertaken to further simplify and rationalise the various Export Promotion Schemes to make them more useful and provide the stimulous for higher export growth.

(d) and (e) Some complaints have been received relating to misuse of export incentives such as Cash Compensatory Support, Replenishment licences, Exim scrips, International Price re-embursement scheme and payment of duty drawback etc. It has been alleged in these complaints that such incentives were availed off or admitted to be availed off on the basis of misdeclaration, forged documents and suppression of material facts. All such complaints are investigated and penal action such as debarment, imposition of fiscal penalty and suspension of Importer-Exporter code No. are taken under the relevant statutory provision. Some cases are also referred to the CBI for prosectuion.

(f) Government is continuously interacting with the Trade and Industry, Export Promotion Councils, Apex Organisations like FIEO, FICCI, CII, ASSOCHAM etc. to make the various export promotion schemes more transparent, practical and useful for boosting exports.

Sale of Imported Fertilizers by MMTC

1519. SHRI S. AUSTIN: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether MMTC sells imported fertilizers in Tamil Nadu;

(b) if so, the quantum of fertilizers sold in Tamil Nadu in 1995-96 and the current year;

(c) whether any interest free credit is given by MMTC to Tamil Nadu dealers;